What is claimed is:

1. A method of analyzing electronic ink, comprising:

receiving, from a software application running on a first processing thread, document data for a document containing electronic ink content;

employing the first processing thread to provide the document data to an electronic ink analysis process for analyzing on a second processing thread;

returning control of the first processing thread to the software application;

receiving results of the analysis process; and

reconciling the results of the analysis process with current document data for the document.

2. The method recited in claim 1, further comprising:

receiving the reconciled analysis results from the software application running on the first processing thread;

employing the first processing thread to provide the reconciled analysis results to a second electronic ink analysis process for analyzing on a third processing thread;

returning control of the first processing thread to the software application;

receiving results of the second analysis process; and

reconciling the results of the second analysis process with current document data for the document.

3. The method recited in claim 2, wherein the first analysis process is an electronic ink layout and classification analysis process and the second analysis process is a recognition process.

4. The method recited in claim 2, wherein the third processing thread is the same as the second processing thread.

5. The method recited in claim 2, further comprising:

receiving the reconciled second analysis results from the software application running on the first processing thread;

employing the first processing thread to provide the reconciled second analysis results to a third electronic ink analysis process for analyzing on a fourth processing thread;

returning control of the first processing thread to the software application;

receiving results of the third analysis process; and

reconciling the results of the third analysis process with a current document data for the document.

6. The method recited in claim 2, wherein the second analysis process is a recognition process with a first stage for recognizing electronic ink data designated to be in a first language and a second stage for recognizing electronic ink data designated to be in a second language.

7. The method recited in claim 1, wherein the document data includes ink content non-ink content of the document.

8. The method recited in claim 7, wherein at least a portion of the electronic ink content annotates the non-ink content.

9. The method recited in claim 1, further comprising:

creating a data structure for the document data received from the software application; and

providing the data structure to the first analysis process.

10. The method recited in claim 9, further comprising:

providing the data structure to the software application for use in maintaining the current state of the document.

11. A computer-readable medium including computer-executable instructions stored thereon for performing the method of claim 1.

12. An software operating environment for analyzing electronic ink, comprising:

a software application that maintains a document containing document data including electronic ink data;

an ink analysis process for analyzing electronic ink; and

an ink analysis tool that

receives the document data containing electronic ink data from the software application,

provides the document data to the electronic ink analysis process to analyze, and

returns results produced by the analysis process to the software application.

13. The software operating environment recited in claim 12, wherein

the software application operates on a first processing thread; and

the analysis process operates on a second thread different from the first thread, such that the software application continues to operate while the analysis process analyzes the electronic ink in the document data.

14. The software operating environment recited in claim 13, wherein the ink analysis tool reconciles the results produced by the analysis process with current document data for the document.

15. The software operating environment recited in claim 1, further comprising:

a second analysis process that analyzes electronic ink; and

wherein the ink analysis tool

provides the results produced by the first analysis process to the second analysis process to analyze, and

returns results produced by the second analysis process to the software application.

16. The software operating environment recited in claim 15, wherein

the ink analysis tool

reconciles the results produced by the first analysis process with current document data for the document, and

provides the reconciled results produced by the first analysis process to the second analysis process to analyze.

17. The software operating environment recited in claim 16, wherein

the ink analysis tool reconciles the results produced by the second analysis process with current document data for the document

18. The software operating environment recited in claim 15, wherein

the ink analysis tool reconciles the results produced by the second analysis process with current document data for the document.